

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) Article 324 of the Constitution vests the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls in the Election Commission and accordingly any complaint with regard to inclusion of names of foreigners in the voters list is required to be made to the Election Commission and to the electoral registration authorities and not the Government. As such, if any complaint is received by the Government with regard to electoral rolls, the same is forwarded to the Election Commission for necessary action.

Munsif Court at Shahbad, U.P.

72. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Allahabad High Court had ordered to set up Munsif Court Shahbad in district Hardoi of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons for not implementing this order; and

(c) the time by which this Munsif Court is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Pension Scheme for GIC Employees

73. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation of India has introduced a pension scheme for its employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the date of its introduction; and

(c) the categories of employees covered under this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Scheme was introduced to all categories of the employees of GIC with effect from 1.11.1993 with an option to those retiring between 1.1.1986 to 1.11.1993 to join the Scheme after returning the benefits paid with interest. The details are contained in the GIC (Employees) Pension Scheme, 1995 which was laid on the Table of the House on 8.12.1995.

Floriculture Project in U.P.

74. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up a floriculture project at Agra in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to identify an overseas consultant for working out the detailed project report in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988

75. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 in view of some ambiguities in it; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the nature of such ambiguities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Nominee Directors of Financial Institutions

76. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the lapses of the Financial Institutions nominee directors in their functioning on Boards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) It is not the Government but Financial Institutions (FIs) which appoint nominee directors on the boards of assisted companies. FIs themselves review the performance of their nominee directors and also take appropriate action wherever necessary.

External Commercial Borrowings

77. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of external commercial borrowings released to the Karnataka State during 1996-97;

(b) whether the Union Government have permitted the Karnataka Government to borrow loans from abroad directly;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to amend the Constitution to facilitate States to borrow loans from abroad directly ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) As per the Constitution of India, the executive power of the State extends to borrowing within the territory of India only. The State Government cannot raise loans abroad directly. However, State Government Undertakings can raise loans abroad subject to the Government of India's guidelines for External Commercial Borrowings.

(d) No, Sir.

Amendment in Notaries Act, 1952

78. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Karnataka for making some amendments in the Notaries Act, 1952;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (b) Do not arise.

Shortage of Coal

79. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coal linkage committee had allocated 32,000 to 40,000 tonnes of coal per day to NTPC plant at Ramagundam in Andhra Pradesh but the same quantity of coal is not being received in the plant;

(b) if so, the main reasons for short supply of coal; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to improve the coal supplies to the aforesaid plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b) As against a linkage of 75.75 lakh tonnes sanctioned to Ramagundam STPS during the period April, 1996 to January, 1997, actual despatches of coal have been 78.75 lakh tonnes during this period. The percentage materialisation is 104%.

(c) In order to augment the supplies, Ramagundam STPS has been advised to step up their lifting of coal by road from a nearby mine of Singareni Collieries Company Limited. Further an additional linkage of 50,000 tonnes had

also been provided for movement from Western Coalfields Limited for the current quarter.

[Translation]

Cotton Handloom Industry

80. SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are ample possibilities of development of Cotton Handloom Industry in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the assistance proposed to be given by the Union Government to ascertain the possibilities in this regard and promote the handloom industry in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R. L. JALAPPA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Government's assistance to all the State Governments/Union Territories including Madhya Pradesh is released on the basis of the proposals submitted by the respective State Government/Union Territories under various on-going programmes implemented for the promotion of the Handloom Industry. A sum of Rs. 182.35 lakh has already been released during this financial year (1996-97) to Government of Madhya Pradesh under Market Development Assistance Scheme, Janata Cloth Scheme, Project Package Scheme, Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme, Loan for Handloom Projects etc.

[English]

Trading of Gold

81. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Gold Council, to stimulate gold consumption in India, has suggested trading of gold by commercial banks; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration by the Ministry of Finance.

Textiles Industries in Tamil Nadu

82. SHRI A.G.S. RAMBABU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Textile Industries located in Tamil Nadu alongwith the items produced by these textile industries;

(b) whether there is any plan to extend assistance to textile mills in the State to increase the production and export of textiles; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?